

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 DODE-00 ERDA-05

AID-05 /066 W

-----030950 130317 /10

P 030859Z MAR 77

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8727

INFO USERDA HQ WASHDC PRIORITY

USERDA HQ GERMANTOWN PRIORITY

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DEPT PASS IO/SCT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IAEA, TECH

SUBJECT: PROPOSED IAEA TRAINING COURSE IN URANIUM EXPLORATION

1. HEAD OF IAEA'S FELLOWSHIPS AND TRAINING SECTION (HAMMOND -- US) CONTACTED MISSION RECENTLY RE PROPOSED PLANS FOR CONDUCTING AN AGENCY TRAINING COURSE NEXT YEAR IN FIELD OF URANIUM EXPLORATION, POSSIBLY TO BE HELD IN U.S. HAMMOND HAS SINCE FOLLOWED UP WITH A LETTER TO PROFESSOR RICHARD H. DE VOTO, COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES, GOLDEN, COLORADO, INQUIRING RE POSSIBLE INTEREST IN HAVING SUCH COURSE HELD AT THAT INSTITUTION. (AT MISSION SUGGESTION, LETTER WAS SENT TO MISSION FOR FORWARDING, AND IS BEING POUCHED TO AMMONS/ERDA AND A COPY TO BORIGHT/OES/NET.)

2. PROPOSED TRAINING COURSE WOULD BE FOUR TO EIGHT WEEKS IN DURATION AND WOULD INCLUDE ABOUT 20 TO 30 PARTICIPANTS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. COURSE SHOULD BE PRACTICE-ORIENTED WITH EXTENSIVE FIELD EXPERIENCE.

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TECHNICAL CONTENT OF COURSE SHOULD INCLUDE LECTURES ON URANIUM GEOLOGY, VARIOUS ASPECTS OF URANIUM MINERALOGY, PETROLOGY, GEOCHEMISTRY AND ON GEOPHYSICAL AND GEOCHEMICAL METHODS OF URANIUM EXPLORATION. LABORATORY INSTRUCTION SHOULD BE INCLUDED ON MINERAL IDENTIFICATION, QUANTITATIVE MINERALOGICAL ANALYSIS, ANALYTICAL AND ASSAY TECHNIQUES FOR URANIUM

ORES. PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION IN THE FIELD SHOULD INCLUDE AN EXAMPLE OF URANIUM GEOLOGY AND INSTRUCTION IN USE OF GEOPHYSICAL AND GEOCHEMICAL URANIUM EXPLORATION TECHNIQUES, AND INCLUDE, IF POSSIBLE, AIRBORNE, CARBORNE AND GROUND RADIOMETRIC SURVEY METHODS, RADON SURVEYS AND GEOCHEMICAL PROSPECTING BY STREAM SEDIMENT, SOIL AND WATER SAMPLING. EXAMPLES OF EXPLORATORY DRILLING TECHNIQUES AND LOGGING SHOULD BE DEMONSTRATED.

3. HAMMOND WILL BE IN WASHINGTON, D. C. DURING WEEK OF MARCH 14-18 AND MAY BE CONTACTED THROUGH AMMONS/ ERDA FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS RE THIS PROPOSED COURSE. HAMMOND ALSO INCLUDED IN HIS LETTER TO DE VOTO THAT HE COULD VISIT COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES ON MARCH 24 FOR DETAILED DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THIS PROPOSED COURSE IF SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE FRUITFUL.

4. SINCE HAMMOND NEEDED TO FIRM UP HIS ITINERARY, MISSION SUGGESTED THAT HE GO AHEAD WITH PLANNED VISIT TO MEET WITH PROFESSOR DE VOTO, BEARING IN MIND, HOWEVER, THAT U.S. MAY PREFER NOT RPT NOT TO HAVE SUCH A COURSE HELD IN U.S. NEXT YEAR DEPENDING ON OUTCOME OF U.S. POLICY REVIEW RELATED TO NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION WHICH IS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY. HAMMOND FULLY UNDERSTANDS THIS POSITION, BUT FEELS HE MUST PURSUE MATTER AT LEAST ON A TENTATIVE BASIS, SINCE IT TAKES CONSIDERABLE ADVANCE PLANNING FOR SUCH A COURSE.

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5. MISSION NOTES THAT AGENCY HAS LONG PLAYED AN ACTIVE ROLE IN FIELD OF URANIUM EXPLORATION AND THAT THIS IS AN AREA WHERE DEMAND FOR THIS TRAINING FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IS HIGH. IT IS LIKELY, THEREFORE, THAT SUCH A COURSE WOULD BE HELD, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT USG OFFERS TO HAVE SUCH COURSE HELD IN U.S.

6. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT U.S. HAS ANY OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO HAVING SUCH A TRAINING COURSE IN U.S. NEXT YEAR. PLEASE ADVISE.STONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL TRAINING, EXPLORATION, URANIUM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977IAEAV01654
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770073-0204
Format: TEL
From: IAEA VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770397/aaaadicu.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c6add7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3221942
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED IAEA TRAINING COURSE IN URANIUM EXPLORATION
TAGS: TECH, IAEA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c6add7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009